OUR WEST BAYFRONT

Name:

Neighborhood IMAGINATION

WORKBOOK

For young planners



r.plan

This is The West Bayfront

IT'S A PRETTY SPECIAL PLACE

IN THIS WORKBOOK,

WE ARE GOING TO EXPLORE OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

AND COME UP WITH

NEW IDEAS

TO MAKE IT EVEN

BETTER!





OUR WEST BAYFRONT

WORKS IN THE WEST BAYFRONT COMMUNITY!

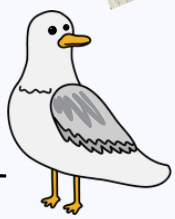
They host events like Porchfest, West BayFit, and National Night Out. They also help plant trees, bring stores and houses to the area, and make the community stronger.



Anyone can be a community planner!

Use this workbook to help you:





MY NAME IS: _____

I AM _____ YEARS OLD

I LIVE IN A CITY CALLED: _____

THINGS I LIKE ABOUT MY CITY:

THINGS I DON'T LIKE ABOUT MY CITY:

MY CITY IS SPECIAL BECAUSE:

PEOPLE IN ANY CITY NEED:

PLACES TO LIVE



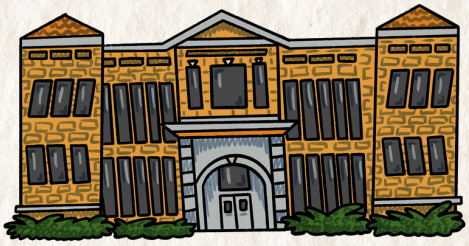
HOSPITALS AND HEALTH CENTERS



OPEN SPACE



SCHOOLS AND PLACES TO LEARN



STORES



UTILITIES: WATER, GAS, ELECTRICITY, INTERNET



TRANSPORTATION



PLACES TO ENJOY



PUBLIC SERVICES: FIREFIGHTERS, GARBAGE COLLECTING, POLICE OFFICERS



LET'S BUILD THE CITY YOU WANT TO LIVE IN:

Imagine

Would you like to live on this street? Why? What do you like about it?



Draw a picture of the street where you live now:

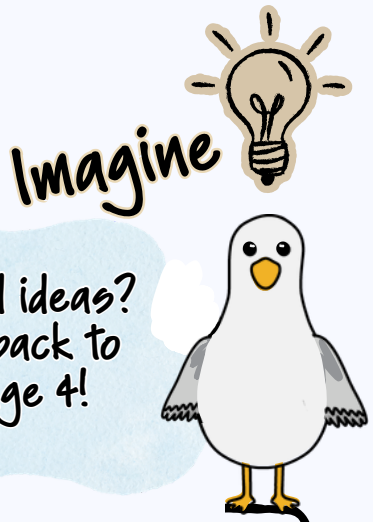
Did your street always look this way? Have you seen changes to your street? What is special about your street? What is not so nice? What would you like to change?

Draw a picture of the street that **you** would like to live on:

LET'S IMAGINE A NEW SPACE

Pretend there's an **empty spot on your street** between two houses. What would you like to see there? Ask yourself, your friends, family, and neighbors:

- What is our neighborhood missing?
- What do we need?
- What would make us happy?
- What would make life better for us?



Idea #1

Idea #2

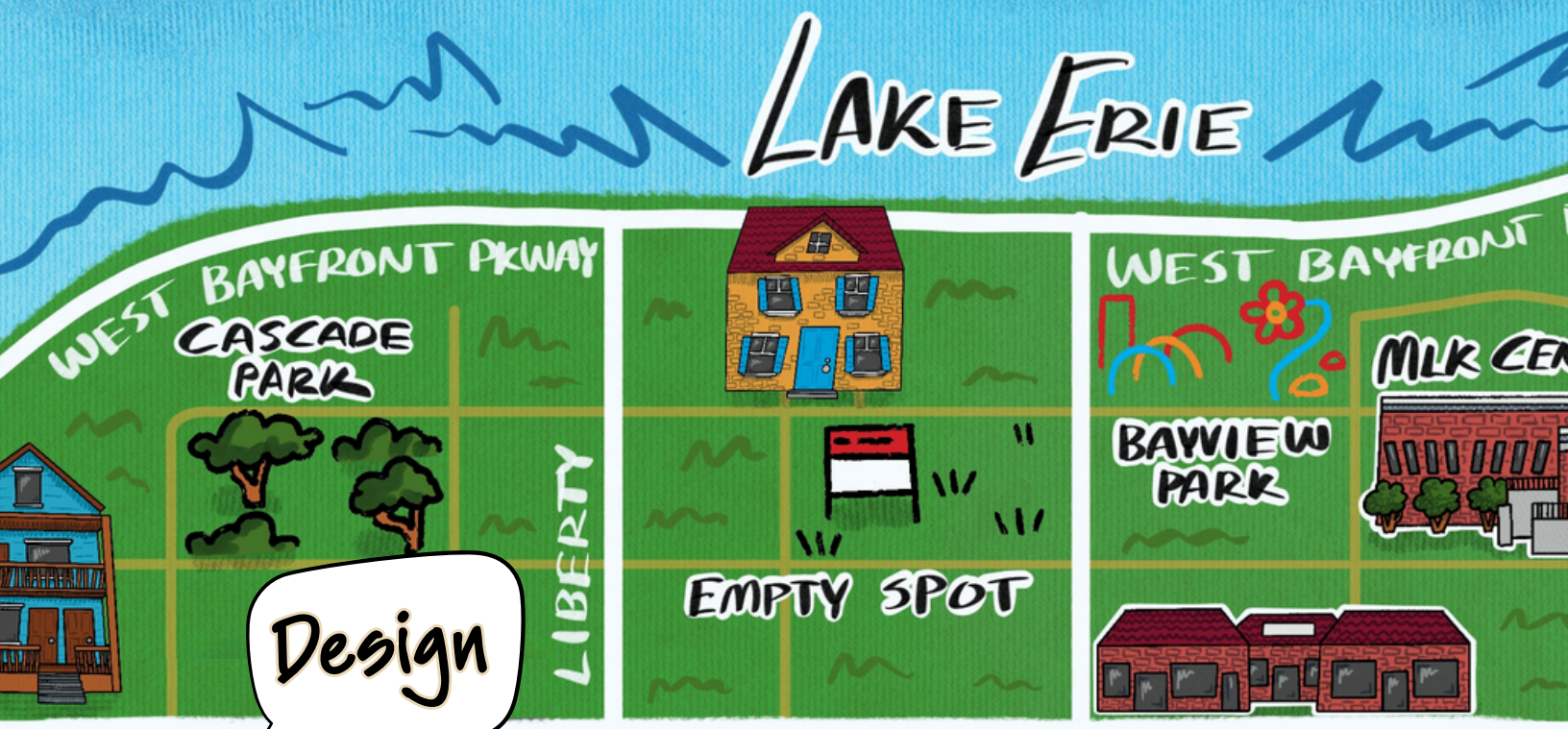
Idea #3



Did you fill the empty lot with something everyone will enjoy? How did you decide what to put there?



Oh look! Just like we imagined!
THERE IS AN EMPTY SPOT ON THE MAP!





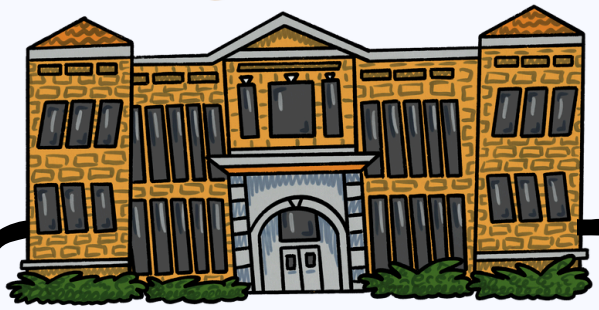
DRAW THE IDEA YOU THINK SHOULD BE BUILT IN THE EMPTY SPOT:

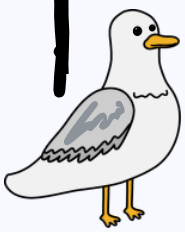
Design

USE DESIGN TO SOLVE A COMMUNITY CHALLENGE:

THERE'S AN EMPTY SCHOOL BUILDING IN THE WEST BAYFRONT!

WHAT DO YOU THINK IT SHOULD BE USED FOR?

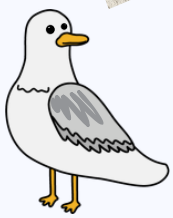




Remember the questions you asked your friends, family, and neighbors!

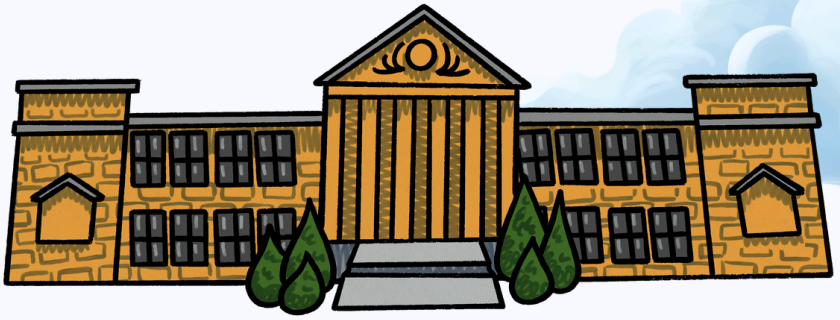






It's important for planners to share their ideas with neighbors!

OWB is going to ask neighbors if they like **your** ideas! Once everyone agrees on the idea that makes the most people happy, they will get to work.

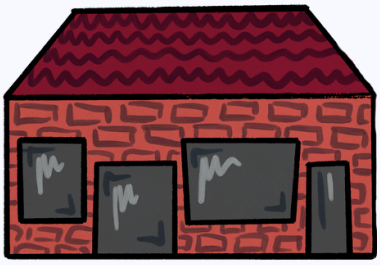


SOME PEOPLE MAY WANT THINGS TO DO AFTER SCHOOL AND FUN PLACES TO HANG OUT



SOME PEOPLE MAY WANT MORE HOUSES SO WE HAVE ROOM FOR MORE NEIGHBORS

Do **you** have ideas for fun things to do after school?

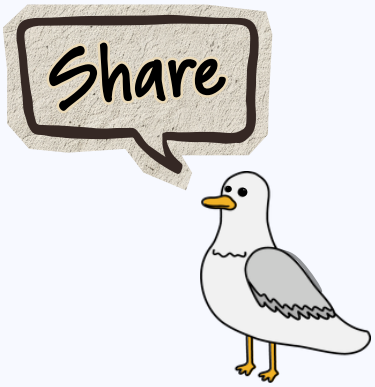


SOME PEOPLE MAY WANT PLACES TO SHOP FOR GROCERIES



SOME PEOPLE MAY WANT MORE TREES

Bring your workbook back to the person who gave it to you, or drop it off at the OWB office:



404 West 8th Street, Erie, PA 16502

Call us with any questions: (814) 871-7962

One last thing...

WHAT IS ONE THING YOU'D ADD OR CHANGE ABOUT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD TO MAKE IT MORE SPECIAL?



CREDITS

Imagine Your Neighborhood: A Community Workbook for Young Planners

Created for Our West Bayfront (OWB)
Designed and produced by r.plan

Illustrations created by r.plan and M. Sullivan-Shimek, student artist at the Erie Center for Arts & Technology:

M. Sullivan-Shimek is an animator and illustrator based in Erie, PA and Rochester, NY. Growing up in Erie, the blizzardy winters and muggy summers gave them ample time to draw. From kindergarten at Tracy across the street to senior year at NPCA, teachers and classmates were subjected to countless doodles on notebooks, textbooks, whiteboards, their skin, other people's skin, and a plethora of other surfaces.

Now, they're shooting for a BFA in animation from the Rochester Institute of Technology, set to graduate in 2029. When not at the grindstone, Sullivan-Shimek likes to watch movies, collect CDs/DVDs/comics, draw, learn about animation/art history, bake and tend to their island in Animal Crossing.

This workbook was created to encourage children and families to imagine, explore, and shape the future of their neighborhood through creativity, observation, and community engagement.

© 2026 Our West Bayfront. All rights reserved.

